GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:542
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2003
BONDED LABOURERS
ALE NARENDRA;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Anti-Slavery International has asked the Government to undertake a comprehensive national survey as recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to identify the total number of bonded labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of bonded labourers estimated during the last three years, till-date including tribal areas of various States, State-wise

(d) the number of bonded labourers freed/rehabilitated in the country, State-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to ameliorate their pitiable condition?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.542 FOR ANSWER ON 28TH APRIL REGARDING BONDED LABOURERS.

(a): Yes Sir.

(b): The International Labour Organisation`s Conference Committee on the Application of Standards at its 88th (June, 2000) Session, urged the Government of India to undertake a comprehensive and authoritative survey for identification of bonded labour. The Anti-Slavery International submitted a report to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) in August, 2001It was inter-alia recommended in the report of the Anti-Slavery International that the Indian Government should ensure that a comprehensive national survey is carried out to identify the total number of bonded labourers in the country, utilising the services of an independent body to assist in developing the methodology and conducting the survey.

(c): The number of bonded labourers identified and released during the last three years including tribal areas of various States, State-wise are given in Annexure-I.

(d): The number of bonded labourers freed/rehabilitated in the country, State-wise and year-wise are given in Annexure-II.

(e): In order to assist the State Governments in the task of rehabilitation of bonded labourers, the Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers since 1978. Under this Scheme rehabilitation assistance of Rs.20,000 per bonded labour is provided, which is shared by the Central and the State Government on 50:50 basis, and in case of the North-Eastern States, 100% Central assistance is provided.Guidelines have been issued regarding implementation of the Scheme to design rehabilitation package in the form of land-based, non-land based, skilled/craft based, depending upon the local conditions and keeping in view the needs of the released bonded labourers.

ANNEXURE-I

NUMBER OF BONDED LABOURERS FREED/REHABILITATED IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

Year	Name of the State	No. of bonded labourers freed / rehabilitated
2000-2001	Arunachal Pradesh	1576
	Rajasthan	24
	Tamil Nadu	3656
2001-2002	Bihar	28
	Haryana	7
	Maharashtra	14
	Karnataka	36

Tamil Nadu 3844
2002-2003 Bihar 125
Karnataka 1854
Haryana 21
Maharashtra 5
Punjab 69
Chhattisgarh 124

ANNEXURE-II

NUMBER OF BONDED LABOURERS FREED AND REHABILITATED STATE WISE AND YEAR WISE SO FAR.

Year	Ar.Pr	And.Pr	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	Karntak	Kerala	M. Pra.	Mahara.	Orissa	Punjab	Rajs.	T.Nadu	U.P	Chh-ati-sga-rh
1978-79	-	2000	625	-	-	1512	83	850	-	1256	-	797	10266	1500	-
1979-80	-	2387	331	-	-	1357	30	-	-	1050	-	527	-	500	-
1980-81	-	1959	1117	-	-	7258	-	-	-	1511	-	518	85	842	-
1981-82	-	1630	452	-	-	4209	76	86	-	5531	-	18	50	1912	-
1982-83	-	-	362	-	-	4509	-	90	-	9554	-	958	10654	4520	-
1983-84	-	-	1812	20	-	7400	329	3691	-	1530	-	618	1310	2786	-
1984-85	-	7946	1516	-	21	2010	=	103	-	10577	-	1000	10240	6121	-
1985-86	-	2990	850	24	-	6115	=	-	-	1300	3412	-	234	6258	5712
1986-87	-	500	702	20	-	2698	=	-	-	2076	-	767	-	3281	-
1987-88	-	-	345	-	-	-	=	-	-	1253	-	130	-	145	-
1988-89	-	-	638	-	-	3613	=	-	-	2165	-	135	-	150	-
1989-90	-	-	106	-	-	4389	=	4341	-	1216	-	242	-	-	-
1990-91	-	-	2035	-	-	-	-	2736	-	1130	-	-	-	-	-
1991-92	-	-	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1992-93	-	1950	356	-	-	5600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1993-94	-	4638	175	-	-	3381	192	-	-	1134	-	54	51	-	-
1994-95	-	1920	743	-	-	1180	-	-	-	1113	-	105	786	-	-
1995-96	-	1632	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1152	-	114	-	-	-
1996-97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1148	-	-	175	-	-
1997-98	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	6000	-				
1998-99	-	98	-	-		35		-	-	5578	249				
1999-00	1416	-	-	-		-		80	-	6620	79				
2000-01	1576	-	-	-		-		24	-	3656	-				
2001-02	-	28	7	36		14	-	-	-	3844	-				
2002-03	-	125	21	1854		5	-	69	-	-	-	124			
Total	2992	29552	12521	64	49	57121	710	11897	1319	46843	69	6321	65573	27797	124